Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TOTAL

# NATIONAL REGISTRAL HATORIC PLACES

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7.	DESCRIPTION							
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Francis Quadrangle Historic District is bounded on the north by Elm Street running from the northeast corner where Elm and Ninth streets intersect to the northwest corner where Elm and Sixth streets intersect; on the east by Ninth Street running from the northeast corner where Elm and Ninth streets intersect to the southeast corner where Ninth Street and Conley Avenue intersect; on the south by Conley Avenue running from the southeast corner where Conley Avenue and Ninth Street intersect to the southwest corner where Conley Avenue and Sixth Street intersect; and on the west by Sixth Street running from the southwest corner where Conley Avenue and Sixth Street intersect to the northwest corner where Sixth and Elm streets intersect. This area encompasses one city block just south of the central, downtown business district in Columbia, Missouri.

Within the area described above are eighteen buildings of varying degrees of architectural significance as indicated on the Site Plan Map. Also located within the historic district is a park area (northwest corner) and the Columns, the only surviving remains of the original Academic Hall destroyed by fire in 1892 (north of Jesse Hall in the open mall area). Immediately to the west of Jesse Hall's north, main entrance are the original tombstones from the graves of Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States, and David Barton, Missouri's first United States Senator. Marking the main, north entrance to the quadrangle is the Memorial Gateway, distinguished by two, square, limestone pillars that bear the seal of the University and bronze bas reliefs of James S. Rollins, "Father of the University," and John H. Lathrop, first president of the University. The cornerstone of the original Academic Hall is in the west pillar.

The historic district's focus is the open mall area with its Ionic columns and accompanying buildings. It is located on the eastern two-thirds of the block and is commonly known as "Francis Quadrangle." These structures front the mall on the east, south, and west sides. All have their main entrances opening off the mall with the exception of the Chancellor's Residence which has its main entrance on the north facade. The remaining buildings included in the district complete the "Red Campus," so named because of the red brick construction used throughout. They are located on the southwest and southeast corners of the block, immediately west of Jesse Hall, and along the northern half of the western boundary. Three of these structures form a complex with two fronting Sixth Street and the third directly behind. A fourth building is oriented perpendicular to the street immediately south of the park area and has its entrances on the south facade. Wide, concrete sidewalks circle the mall and interconnect all buildings.

An architectural diversity exists among the district's buildings. The earliest structures [Chancellor's Residence (1867) and Switzler Hall (1872)] are in the Italianate style. The Chancellor's Residence has the irregular plan and bay windows commonly associated with the style. Its large, heavy brackets support the wide overhang of the hip roof. Classic details include the lintels over the windows and the Corinthian columns

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#### 7. #1

# FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

framing the main entrance. Switzler Hall, on the other hand, typifies a simpler version. Its "L"-shaped plan is underplayed by the massive, square-plan east wing. There is an asymmetrically-positioned cupola which adds to the Italianate feeling of the structure. Round-arched windows with massive, stone lugsills are a most interesting feature.

The great building boom of 1892-95 (when Sociology, Chemistry, Swallow Hall, Jesse Hall, and the easternmost portions of the two sections of the Engineering Complex were constructed) saw the rise of the Eclectic style. Designs for these buildings borrowed from the Richardsonian Romanesque, the High Victorian Italianate, the High Gothic, and the Classic Revival styles. Characteristic features of each provide harmony as well as diversity among the six buildings and include:

- 1. Richardsonian Romanesque
  - a. massiveness reinforced by simplicity of form
  - b. broad-arched entranceways trimmed by radiating stone voussoirs
  - square towers topped by pyramidal roofs and polygonal towers with conical roofs
- 2. High Victorian Italianate
  - a. window opening shape and trim
- 3. High Gothic
  - a. bichrome color scheme
  - b. complex roof lines dormers
  - c. pointed arch
- 4. Classic Revival
  - a. order.

The turn of the century brought the introduction of the 2nd Renaissance Revival and the Georgian Revival to the Red Campus. Parker Hall, constructed in 1900 in the 2nd Renaissance Revival style, began this trend towards historically "correct" designs. It was followed by:

- 1. McAlester Hall 1903 Georgian Revival
- 2. Jay H. Neff Hall 1920 2nd Renaissance Revival
- 3. Noyes Hospital 1924 Georgian Revival
- 4. Lee H. Tate Hall 1927 2nd Renaissance Revival
- 5. High School 1935 Georgian Revival
- 6. Student Health Center 1937 Georgian Revival
- 7. Walter Williams Hall 1937 2nd Renaissance Revival

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# 7. #2 FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

#### 8. A. Ross Hill Hall - 1951 - Georgian Revival

These two styles appear to have been used interchangeably as examples of each tend to be very similar in appearance. It is the organization of like elements and the addition of secondary characteristics which serve to distinquish one style from the other. Shared characteristics include: 1) basically rectangular plans with a minimum of projections; 2) symmetrical facades; 3) double-hung sash windows in rectangular frames; 4) hip roofs; 5) doorways set in tabernacle frames; and 6) trim including quoins and lintels with and without keystones. It is the classical style cornices, decorative pilasters, and Palladian windows that characterize the Red Campus Georgian Revival buildings, while rustication of lower floors and roundarched windows extending two stories in height and trimmed by sill level balustrades distinguish the 2nd Renaissance Revival structures.

The employment of the foregoing styles in building designs appears to conform closely with the styles popular at the time of construction. A reversal of this trend becomes apparent with the repeated use of the 2nd Renaissance Revival and the Georgian Revival long past their prime popularity years. This results in a stronger continuity among the new and old structures.

By the 1960's, however, a second major change in stylistic direction occurs. There is a break in the past continuity with the construction of the modern-style Geology Building. Although modern in feeling, certain details (including quoins and window treatment) relate it to other quadrangle buildings.

Despite the difference among the buildings architecturally, there are qualities which relate all the structures to each other. As mentioned above, certain structural and decorative details are continually repeated. It is, however, the construction materials that serve as the main thread that ties all the historic structures together. Red brick is used for all wall construction with stone reserved for trim, foundations, and basements (sometimes extending through the lower floors).

#### CONDITION

The Francis Quadrangle Historic District structures are maintained in excellent condition. Swallow Hall does, however, suffer from some water leakage due to the re-channeling of a stream at the southeast corner of the building.

Several maintenance projects have been or are currently being conducted:

 the repainting of the exterior trim of Jesse Hall, particularly the dome area

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#### 7. #3

# FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

2. the re-tuckpointing of the walls and stabilizing of the foundations of Parker Hall.

The open mall area and park are neatly landscaped and well kept. Shrubs, flowers, and trees surrounding the buildings are maintained in equally good condition.

#### SITE

The historic district is surrounded by various other University of Missouri-Columbia properties. The White Campus, also named for its construction materials, is to the east, while several dormitories, one classroom building, two parking lots, the Missouri State Teachers Association building, and several residential type structures are to the west. To the south are the most recent additions to the campus' educational and recreational facilities including several classroom buildings and a student union. A row of commercial buildings and several parking lots are along the southern side of Conley Avenue, opposite Jesse Hall and the High School. The district is bounded on the north by the downtown business district of Columbia.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

1. Statement by Alden Redfield, personal interview, March 2, 1973.

8.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or Mor	re sa Appropriate)	•	
Pre-Columbia	n) [] 16th Century	18th Century	■ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	[X] 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If App	licable and Known) 18	67 - 1960's	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	(Check One or More as Appropri	iate)	·
Abor iginal	X Education	Political	Urban Planning
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Francis Quadrangle Historic District, comprising the central core of the University of Missouri's educational and administrative buildings, is located in Columbia, Missouri. Its structures stand as memorials and monuments to the people of Missouri. "Francis Quadrangle," the heart of the district, is significant as the oldest, most monumental expression of the quadrangle type of campus planning in the state. It symbolizes the historic significance of the University of Missouri as the first state university established west of the Mississippi River. Six of the quadrangle structures also stand as intact, well-preserved examples of the work of Missouri's institutional architect, Morris Frederick Bell (1849-1929).

Today we dedicate Academic Hall [Jesse Hall], and this group of subordinate halls, by whatever name we may call them. The plan according to which these buildings are placed is an elastic one, capable of almost infinite extension. In other institutions I have often noticed memorials of individual patriotism and public spirit. Many of our sister universities hold in high reverence the names of those who, out of their abundant means, have contributed to their endowment. There is no more notable monument to a noble family, no better title to American nobility, than that which may be gained by building for the public service a library, a museum or an educational hall. . . . Shall we not have as time goes on a series of buildings each devoted to some special and important use in the economy of the University and each bearing the name of its founder over its entrance.

The foregoing excerpt from the dedication speech for Academic Hall (Jesse Hall) and its accompanying structures on June 4, 1895, by Dr. Calvin M. Woodward, President of the Board of Curators, expresses philosophies which have become a part of University procedure. Certain historic district structures serve as excellent examples of the implementation of such policies:

- 1. buildings named to honor an individual associated with the professional school housed within:
  - a. <u>Williams Hall</u> for Dean Walter Williams (founder and dean

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#### 8. #1

## FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

of the School of Journalism and former University president)

- b. Hill Hall for University President A. Ross Hill
- c. Jesse Hall for University President Richard S. Jesse
- d. <u>Switzler Hall</u> for William F. Switzler ("Dean of Missouri Journalists," editor of the <u>Missouri Statesman</u>) (name retained after School of Journalism moved to new quarters)
- e. <u>Swallow Hall</u> for George C. Swallow (first State Geologist, first professor of geology at the University of Missouri, first dean of the College of Agriculture) (name retained after Schools of Geology and Biology moved to new quarters)
- f. Noyes Hospital for Dean Guy Lincoln Noyes (former professor of Eye and Ear Diseases, Superintendent of Parker Memorial Hospital, dean of the School of Medicine)
- g. McAlester Hall for Dr. Andrew W. McAlester (former dean of the School of Medicine and professor of surgery) (name retained after School of Medicine moved to new quarters)
- 2. buildings named for the donor, or donor's relative, who provided the necessary construction funds:
  - a. <u>Tate Hall</u> for Lee H. Tate by parents (former student and graduate of the University of Missouri School of Law)
  - b. Parker Hall for William L. Parker and Adolphus Busch (no information available on Parker; Busch: brewer and industrialist, founder of Anheuser-Busch Brewery, donor to many charities)
  - c. Neff Hall for Jay H. Neff by son Ward A. Neff (founder of the Corn Belt Dailies, former mayor of Kansas City, Missouri)

#### History of Construction

The University of Missouri was established in 1839 as the first state university west of the Mississippi River. Academic Hall, completed in 1841, was the first building and it housed both the educational and administrative facilities.

By the beginning of the Civil War, the campus facilities had expanded to four buildings with the addition of the President's Mansion, the grammar school, and the astronomical observatory. The campus was shaded by magnificent forest trees.

The University ceased its normal functions during the Civil War. During the

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8. #2

## FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

soldiers' occupation of the campus, most of the trees were killed, making a barren plain out of what had been a splendid natural park. The President's Mansion was burned and the main building and grammar school badly damaged by vandal soldiers.<sup>4</sup>

With the blight of the war still prevalent and the University's income small and uncertain, the new President Daniel Read made the Legislature realize that without state aid the institution might be closed. The Legislature responded with the first appropriation the school had ever received from the State, an appropriation of \$10,000 to rebuild the President's Mansion. A small percentage of the general revenue was also set aside for maintenance purposes. 5

A College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts was provided for by an act of Congress as early as 1862. Following much dilemma, it was located in Columbia in 1870. The first new building on the campus was constructed to fill the need for facilities to conduct chemical analysis, which developed from the creation of the Agricultural College. This building was Scientific Hall, later named Switzler Hall.

Facilities to house male students attending the University were provided in 1888 with the construction of Benton Hall. A second dormitory, Lathrop Hall, was added ten years later. Both structures, which have since been torn down, were located west of "Francis Quadrangle."

President Richard S. Jesse had been head of the University for one year when the main building burned on January 9, 1892. Every public building in Columbia was placed at the disposal of the school as there was no suspension of classes and regular activity. 9

With the fire began the University's greatest era of growth and expansion. 10 The citizens of the state united and authorized the Legislature to provide financial aid to not only rebuild the facilities, but also to increase them. The Board of Curators met and agreed upon a quadrangle plan, requesting M.F. Bell to submit plans for buildings to line the east and west sides of the mall with the columns in the middle. 1 (Bell had previously been one of the architects for the east and west wings of the original Academic Hall in 1885). 12

Out of the ashes of one building grew five other structures: Law Building (now Sociology), Chemical Building (now Chemistry), Physics and Engineering Building (now part of the Engineering Complex), Mechanic Arts Building (also part of the Engineering Complex), and Biological and Geological Building (now Swallow Hall). 13 All these structures were built in the two-year period

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#### 8. #3

# FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

of 1892-93. A power house, which no longer exists, was also constructed south of the Mechanical Arts Building.  $^{14}$ 

Plans for the building which would eventually close the quadrangle on the south side were not determined at the time of the other buildings' construction, but its setting appears to have been considered in the original plans. This building, Academic Hall (now Jesse Hall), was completed in 1895 from plans also drawn by Bell.

Since this initial period of growth, the University has continued to expand with the addition of:

- 1. Parker Memorial Hospital (Parker Hall)
- 2. Medical Building (McAlester Hall)
- 3. Neff Hall
- 4. Noyes Hospital
- 5. Tate Hall
- 6. High School
- 7. Student Health Center
- 8. Williams Hall
- 9. Hill Hall
- 10. Geology Building.

#### Architect: Morris Frederick Bell

Investigations into the life of Morris Frederick Bell reveal a man of extraordinary versatility. His professional career as a practicing architect was rivaled by his political activities and his "professional" hobby, the telephone.

A native of Hagerstown, Maryland, Bell moved to Missouri in 1869. In 1871, he made Fulton, Missouri, his permanent residence.

During the years of his practice (1869-1929), he produced many monuments for state institutions: the School for the Deaf and Dumb at Fulton; hospitals at Nevada, Fulton, and Higginsville; and correctional schools at Tipton, Boonville, and Chillicothe. He also drew up plans for private schools such as Stephens College, Gallatin College, and Central Female College; public schools at Centralia and Fulton; commercial structures; and domestic architecture. His supreme accomplishment would have to be, however, the Quadrangle at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

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## FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

His political activities included: city councilman, Paymaster General of the State Militia in 1893, Adjutant General in 1897 under Governor Lon V. Stephens, a member of the personal staff of Governor Alexander M. Dockery, and an assistant to the sargeant-at-arms at the Democratic Convention in 1908.

Bell can also be credited with the initiation of telephone service for Fulton, Missouri, and upgrading that of Nevada, Missouri. 16

#### Comparison with other Missouri Educational Institutions' Campuses

Upon surveying numerous Missouri educational facilities' plans, it becomes evident that the quadrangle is one of the most popular forms for organizing campus structures. Structures encircling the central mall area provide the necessary quarters for the educational and administrative functions of the institutions. In only one example were these structures used for housing and dining purposes.

Of those surveyed, "Francis Quadrangle" is the oldest, dating from the 19th century, all others being of 20th century construction. \(^{17}\) Most of these quadrangles appear to have been gradually created through the addition of new structures over the years, most of these later buildings being of a lesser architectural quality than the initial structure. University of Missouri-Columbia's quadrangle, on the other hand, was built as a single unit incorporating two existing structures. Here all structures are close in architectural quality. Newer structures have not detracted from the quadrangle plan, but through proper placement have strengthened it.

#### Integrity of Original Construction

Much of the original integrity of the structures and the quadrangle plan has been maintained despite the addition of new structures and new wings to existing buildings. It appears that five structures have been totally removed: the power house, Lathrop Hall, Benton Hall, Laws Observatory, and the Elementary School. Additions and/or alterations have been made to:

- Chancellor's Residence shutters removed; main entrance redesigned; three-room, one-story, south addition (1923); interior remodeling; and grounds re-landscaped
- 2. Tate Hall west wing added
- Jesse Hall east wing added
- 4. Engineering Complex extensive laboratory complex added on the west; original laboratories of the northernmost portion replaced; and extensive remodeling of the southernmost portion through the replacement of the western two-thirds of the structure, removal of

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8. #5

## FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

the entrance gable, and altering of the roof line

- 5. Swallow Hall conical-shaped roofs of twin towers removed
- 6. Parker Hall classic-style porches removed.

In most cases these alterations and additions have been sympathetic to the style of the existing structures.

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in Missouri history as outlined in Missouri's "Comprehensive Statewide Preliminary Preservation Plan." Francis Quadrangle Historic District is, therefore, being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places because it is 1) a monument to the people of Missouri; 2) the oldest, most monumental expression of the quadrangle type of campus planning in Missouri; 3) a symbol of the first state university established west of the Mississippi River; and 4) an intact, well-preserved expression of the work of Missouri institutional architect, Morris Frederick Bell.

#### **FOOTNOTES**

- 1. Visitor's Guide to the University of Missouri, Columbia: 1839-1967.
- 2. Ibid.
- 3. Joseph Glenn Babb, "A Short History of the University," The University of Missouri Bulletin, Vol. 16, No. 20, July, 1915, p. 9.
- 4. Ibid.
- 5. Ibid., pp. 9-10.
- 6. Ibid., p. 10.
- 7. <u>Ibid.</u>; and Franklin B. Hough, ed., <u>Historical Sketches of the Universities and Colleges of the United States</u> (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1883), p. 30.
- 8. Babb, "A Short History of the University," p. 13.
- 9. Ibid.
- 10. Ibid., p. 14.

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## S. #6 FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

- 11. Marian Morris Ohman, "Initial Study of Architect M.F. Bell (1849-1929): His Contributions to the State of Missouri, "Master's Thesis, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1970, p. 27.
- 12. Ibid., p. 14.
- 13. Ibid., p. 28; and Babb, "A Short History of the University," p. 14.
- 14. Ohman, "Initial Study of Architect M.F. Bell (1849-1929): His Contributions to the State of Missouri," pp. 27, 32; and Babb, "A Short History of the University," p. 14.
- 15. Ohman, "Initial Study of Architect M.F. Bell (1849-1929): His Contributions to the State of Missouri," p. 27.
- 16. This discussion on Morris Frederick Bell is based on information included in "Initial Study of Architect M.F. Bell (1849-1929): His Contributions to the State of Missouri," Master's Thesis written by Marian Morris Ohman, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1970.
- 17. Washington University's quadrangle, consisting of four buildings with several joined by arches, is also a notable example of this type of campus planning. Construction was begun in 1899, four years after the completion of the Bell structures on "Francis Quadrangle," and completed during the early years of the 20th century. Other examples include Westminster College's Churchill Quadrangle and those on the campuses of Stephens College, Northeast Missouri State University, and Southwest Missouri State University.

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6.		
2.	Historic American Buildings Survey 1941, 1959	(federal)
	Library of Congress	
	Washington, D.C.	Code: 08
3.	Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue	(state)
	1963	
	State Historical Society of Missouri	
	Corner, Hitt and Lowry streets	
	Columbia, Missouri 65201	Code: 29
4.	Advisory List to the National Register of Historic Places	(federal)
	1969	
	United States Department of the Interior	
	National Park Service	
ļ	Washington, D.C.	Code: 08
5.	Missouri State Historical Survey	(state)
	1973	
	Missouri State Park Board	
	P.O. Box 176, 1204 Jefferson Building	
	Jefferson City, Missouri 65101	Code: 29

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## 9. #1 FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

- 4. Ohman, Marian Morris. "Initial Study of Architect M.F. Bell (1849-1929): His Contributions to the State of Missouri." Master's Thesis, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1970.
- 5. Redfield, Alden. Personal interview. March 2, 1973. (Director, Museum of Archaeology, University of Missouri-Columbia).
- 6. Visitor's Guide to the University of Missouri, Columbia: 1839-1967.

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- 2. <u>Bulletin of the University of Missouri: Announcement of the Department of Medicine.</u> Vol. III, No. 5, May, 1902, pp. 3, 9.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_. Vol. 14, No. 6, June, 1903, p. 3.
- 4. Bain, Patterson, and wife. Personal interview. January 15, 1969.
- 5. Caldwell, Dorothy J. (ed.). <u>Missouri Historic Sites Catalogue</u>. Columbia, Missouri: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1963, pp. 9, 10.
- 6. <u>Concise Dictionary of American Biography</u>. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1964, p. 129.
- 7. Dedication of Lee H. Tate Hall Memorial Law Building, Columbia, Missouri, October 1, 1927.
- 8. <u>Dictionary of American Biography</u>. Vol. XXI. Supplement I. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944, pp. 141-43.
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- 10. Guitar, Sarah. "Monuments and Memorials in Missouri," <u>Missouri</u>
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9.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	RICT
11.	History of Boone County, Missouri. St. Louis: Company, 1882, pp. 309, 312.	Western Historical
12.	Jay H. Neff Hall.	
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14.	McCue, George. The Building Art in St. Louis: St. Louis: American Institute of Architects, p. 65.	
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18.	Vol. 28. April, 1934, p. 217.	
19.	Vol. 30. January, 1936, p. 178 and	1 April, 1936, p. 304.
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- 2. <u>Dedication of Academic Hall, Missouri University</u>, June 4, 1895. (Program of speeches).
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	Printing Office,	1883, p. 3	30.		•
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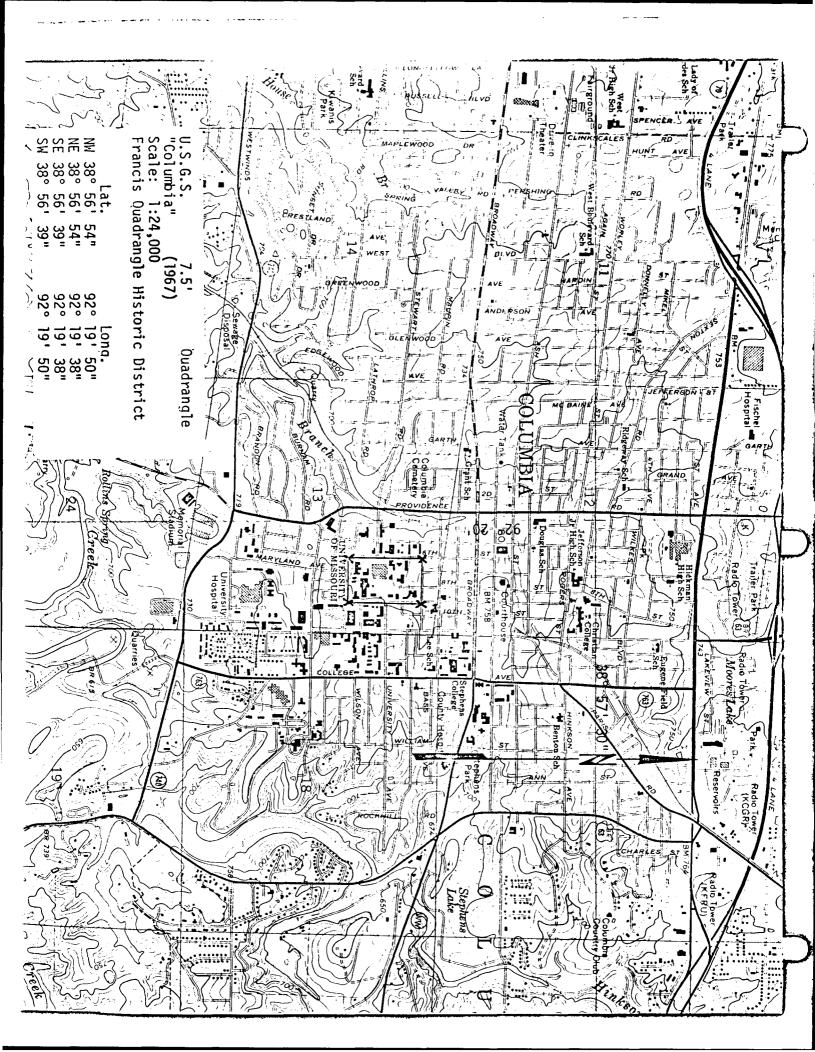
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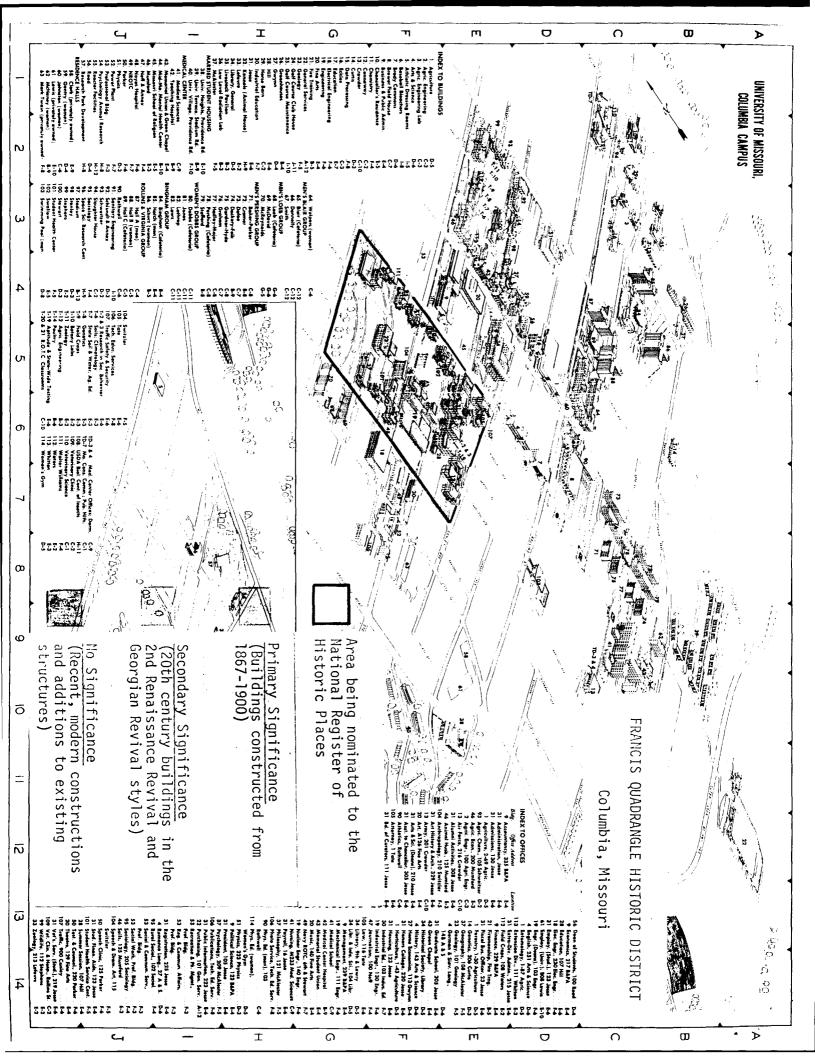
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iso shows the degree of significance given to each nominated structure.





# FRANCIS QUADRANGLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (RED CAMPUS)

COUNTY:

Boone

LOCATION: Columbia, Missouri - See Site File Copy

OWNER: ADDRESS: University of Missouri Columbia, Missouri

DATE APPROVED BY A.C.:

06-16-73

DATE SENT TO JEFF. CITY: (07-25-73) 11-28-73

DATE SENT TO D.C.: (09-13-73) 12-04-73

DATE OF REC. IN D.C.:

(09-18-73)

DATE PLACED ON NATIONAL REGISTER:

12-18-73

DATE AWARDED CERTIFICATE (AND PRESENTOR):

DATE FILE REVIEWED:

02-28-74 Osmund R. Overby - Advisory Council member

people of Missouri. "Francis Quadrangle," the heart of the district, is significant as the oldest, most monumental expression of the quadrangle type of campus planning in the state. It symbolizes the historic significance of the University of Missouri's educational and administrative buildings, is located in Columbia, Missouri. Its structures stand as memorials and monuments to the River. Six of the quadrangle structures also stand as intact, well-preserved University of Missouri as the first state university west of the Mississippi examples of the work of Missouri's institutional architect, Morris Frederick Francis Quadrangle Historic District, comprising the central core of the Bell (1849-1929).

